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R 192056Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6571
INFO USCINCSO

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

(X) Release () Excise () Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: () In Part () In Full

() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to

Date Declassify on Reason

UNCLAS BUENOS AIRES 5553

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, AR

SUBJECT: DESAPPEARANCE OF FATHER MAURICE SILVA (319/78/4)

REF: STATE 179655

1. EMBASSY PRESENTED SUBJECT DISAPPEARANCE CASE TO FOREIGN OFFICE'S WORKING GROUP ON HUMAN RIGHTS ON APRIL 4, 1978. TO DATE WE HAVE RECEIVED NO REPLY. FATHER SILVA WAS MEMBER OF FRENCH CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS ORDER WHICH LIVES AMONG THE POOR AND PERFORMS MANUAL WORK. FATHER SILVA WAS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN ARRESTED BY POLICE WHILE WORKING AT HIS JOB AS A STREET CLEANER IN BUENOS AIRES.

2. CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST HAS BEEN SHOWN IN SUBJECT CASE BY BENJAMIN ROSENTHAL (BA-3223), DON EDWARDS (BA-2566) AND BY JOHN WYDLER (REFTEL). IN ADDITION, EMBASSY HAS REPLIED TO SEVERAL PRIVATE U.S. CITIZEN REQUESTS.

3. CASE IS WELL KNOWN AMONG CHURCHMEN HERE.
CASTRO

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